Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04443 190623Z ACTION OPR-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SEDU EDUCATION

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR MATERIALS ON AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

1. OFFICIALS AMERICAN-SPONSORED DAMAVAND COLLEGE REQUEST EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN STUDENTS WISHING ENTER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN IRAN WHO ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY BECAUSE OF 1954 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RULING WHICH STIPULATES THAT AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REPRESENTS ELEVEN YEARS OF SCHOOLING. AN AMERICAN OR AN IRANIAN GRADUATING FROM AN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL CANNOT OFFICIALLY ENTER UNIVERSITY HERE UNTIL AFTER COMPLETING ONE YEAR IN AN IRANIAN HIGH SCHOOL, OR PRESENTING 30 HOURS COLLEGE CREDIT. INSTITUTIONS MOST AFFECTED ARE THOSE WHICH TEACH IN ENGLISH SUCH AS DAMAVAND COLLEGE. AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA HOLDERS WHO DO ENTER IRANIAN INSTITUTIONS ON A PROVISIONAL BASIS AND COMPLETE FOUR YEARS AND RECEIVE DIPLOMA CANNOT HAVE DIPLOMA CERTIFIED BY THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION OF IRAN. SUCH CERTIFICATION IS NECESSARY FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE SCHOOL OR FOR OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT IN IRAN.

2. EMBASSY RAISED THIS WITH RECENTLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF EDUCATION, DR. MANOUCHEHR GANJI, FIRST INCUMBENT OF THAT OFFICE WHO IS AMERICAN EDUCATED. MINISTER AGREED REVIEW MATTER AND ASKED EMBASSY SUPPLY HIM WITH CURRICULA FROM FOUR TYPICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

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AMERICAN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS FROM N, S, E, AND WESTERN REGIONS.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT AIRSHIP FULL CURRICULA FOR 12 YEAR PROGRAMS AS INDICATED ABOVE. MATERIALS SHOULD NOT ONLY LIST COURSES BUT SHOW NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK OF CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION, LAB PERIODS, ETC. TO ESTABLISH THE VALUE OF THE CURRICULA ALSO NEED A STATEMENT WHICH DESCRIBES ELEMENTS OF

PROGRAM NOT EVIDENT FROM SIMPLE LISTING, I.E., REQUIEMENT THAT STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE INITIATIVE THROUGH INDIVIDUAL WORK IN LABORATORIES, LIBRARY AND IN PREPARATION OF REPORTS, ETC. WHICH REFLECT MORE THAN SIMPLE MEMORIZATION TEXTBOOKS. SUCH A COMMENTARY SHOULD PREFERABLY BE PREPARED AND SIGNED BY AN EDUCATOR OF NATIONAL REPUTATION, PREFERABLY ONE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION OF OTHER COUNTRIES. SUCH STATEMENT NEEDED TO ASSIST MINISTER IN OVERCOMING RESERVATIONS BY EUROPEAN EDUCATED COLLEAGUES WHO FEEL THAT AN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION IS LESS COMPLETE A PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY THAN IRANIAN OR EUROPEAN PRE-UNIVERSITY SCHOOLING. MIKLOS

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